

REPORT

FOR

THE

on the
Health and Sanitary Condition
of the



SCHOUGH OF HYTHE,
RURAL DISTRICT OF EAST ASHFORD,
RURAL DISTRICT OF ELEHAM,
RURAL DISTRICT OF WEST ASHFORD.

by

HILDA K. BRADY-BIRKS, M.Sc., M.B.,
Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F. P. H.

EAST KENT (No.3) UNITED DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

on the Health and Sanitary Conditions
of Hythe Borough, East Ashford Rural
District, Elham Rural District and
West Ashford Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the
Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

For the four areas the Registrar General's estimated
Population for the year was 36,493 compared with 35,056
in the previous year.

The Birth Rate for the joint areas was 17.61. This
represents a fall as the figure for 1947 was 19.99. The
corresponding figures for England and Wales were 17.9
for 1948 and 20.5 for 1947. No maternal death occurred
in any of the four areas and only one case of Puerperal
Pyrexia was notified.

The Infant Mortality rate during the first year of
life was 30.2 per 1,000 estimated births, a fall compared
with 34.56 for 1947. The rate for England and Wales
was 34.0 for 1948.

Tuberculosis: The number of new cases was 38 a fall
on the figure of 49 for the previous year. The death
rate per 1,000 resident population was 0.47 and the rate
for England and Wales was 0.51 for 1948.

Infectious Diseases: There were no major
epidemics of infectious disease during 1948, and the
number of notifications was very low in spite of the
inclusion of Measles and Whooping Cough in the major
group of notifications as from April 1948. Two cases
of Mumps were admitted to Hospital on account of bad
home conditions.

Six cases of Infantile Paralysis were notified during
the year - one case more than in the previous year.
Two cases died - one before the diagnosis was finally
proved and one severe case in an adult where the muscles
of the chest wall were involved. The other four cases
made a good recovery with practically no residual
paralysis.

Again the figures for Scarlet Fever (ten cases) and
Diphtheria (three cases + two suspected cases) were very
low.

Deaths: Heart Disease and Intra-cranial Lesions
still head the list of causes of death and Cancer cancer
second place. The number of deaths from Pneumonia,
Bronchitis and Influenza were low.

Housing: Good progress can be reported considering the many difficulties and limitations met with, but I am becoming increasingly aware of the very bad conditions under which women are working in Category 5 houses of the Housing Survey and as yet there appears to be little hope of rehousing these families. All concerned with housing are acutely conscious of the need for a rehousing programme as soon as possible.

Water Supply: The water supply of the four areas is under constant supervision as to quality and quantity and although many houses do not yet possess a regular piped supply of good water the outlook is brighter as new schemes already approved will soon be in operation.

The importance of the Care of Old People is much in our minds and an effort is being made to assess the needs of elderly persons in our Rural Areas. In the Borough of Rythe there is already established an Old People's welfare Committee which is dealing adequately with the problem.

I should like to thank the four Councils for their constant support and interest, and also the Sanitary Inspectors and their staffs for their helpful co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

HILDA K. BRADE-BIRAS,
M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF EAST KENT (No.3) UNITED DISTRICT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: Hilda A. Brade-Birks,
M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., L.R.C.P.,
M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Borough of Hythe: J. Plim, Cert. R.S.A.
Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.

East Ashford R.D.C.: R. Stevenson, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

West Ashford R.D.C.: G.P. Lawrence, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:
D. Roberts, Cert. R.S.I.

Elham R.D.C.: E. Badcock, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
K.M. Mason (Assistant Sanitary
Inspector).

HEALTH VISITORS.

CHILD WELFARE
CLINICS.

Borough of Hythe.

Miss E.P. Jones

Prospect Road.

East Ashford R.D.C.

Miss Batty (Temp.)

Hastingleigh.

Mrs. Blake

Wye.

Miss Brocklehurst

Hamstreet.

" (Temp.)

Brabourne.

Miss Ellis

Chilham.

Mersham.

Aldington.

West Ashford R.D.C.

Miss Brocklehurst

Pluckley.

"

Charing.

"

Egerton.

Mrs. Byrne

Bethersden.

Mrs. E. Wakefield

Shadoxhurst.

Elham R.D.C.

Miss Beckensall

Acrise.

"

Elham.

"

Hawkinge.

"

Paddlesworth.

"

Swingfield.

Miss Ellis

Lympne.

"

Postling.

"

Stanford.

"

Sellindge.

Miss Heigho

Elmsted.

"

Stelling Minnis.

"

Stelling.

Miss Jones

Lyminge.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Section A.

1.

STATISTICS.

Area	3,013 acres.
Population	8,646 (Registrar General's estimate for 1948).
No. of inhabited houses	2,811 plus 42 occupied by H.M. war Department.
Rateable Value	£93,589.
Sum represented by penny rate	£365.

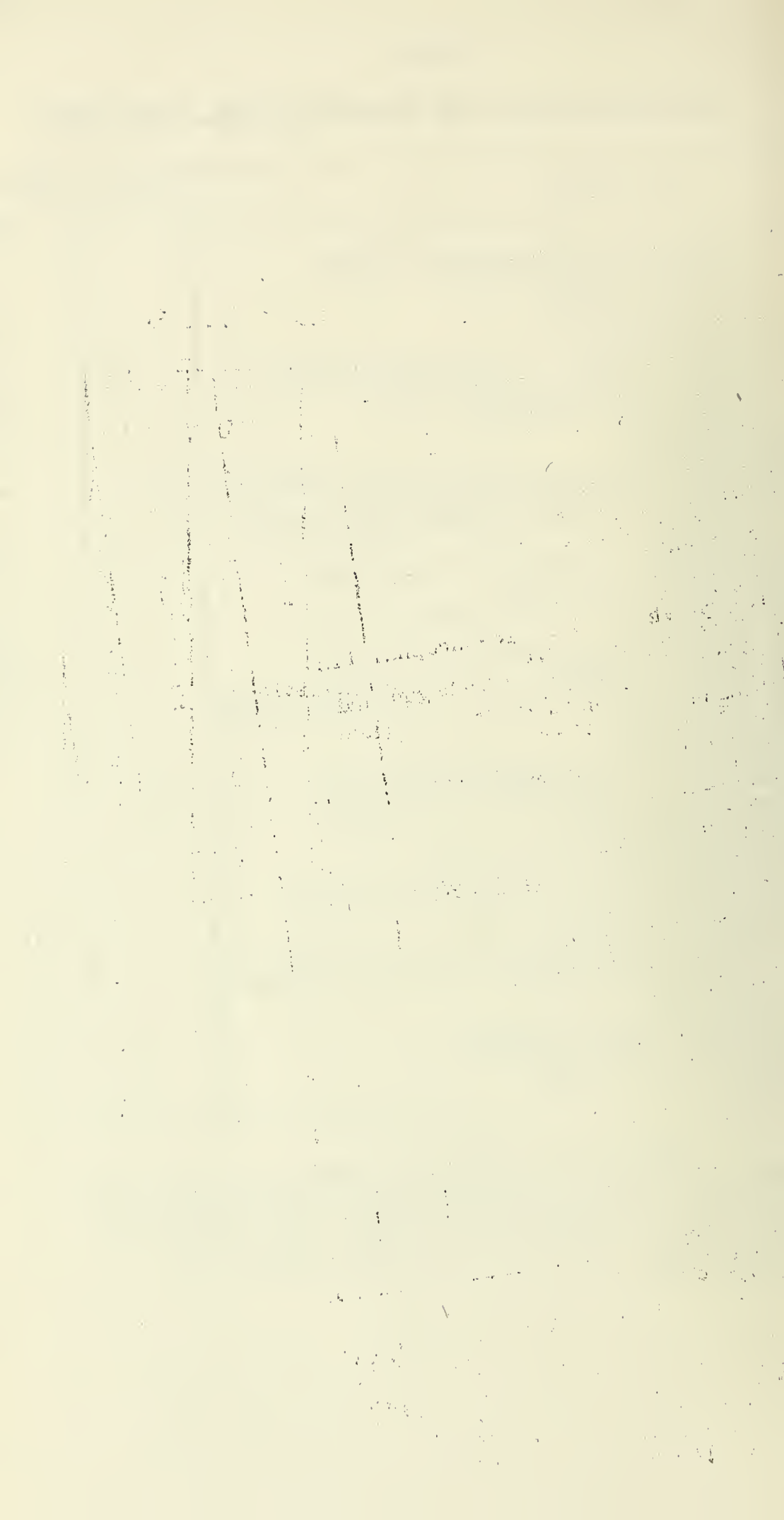
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		Hythe	England & Wales
1. Live Births	126	73	53	Birth rate	14.57	17.9
(a) Legitimate	119	68	51	per 1,000 estimated		
(b) Illegitimate	7	5	2	resident population		
2. Still Births	3	1	2	Rate per	23.25	-
(a) Legitimate	3	1	2	1,000 total (live and		
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	still) births		
				Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	0.34	0.42
3. Deaths	129	61	68	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	14.92	10.8
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes						
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still)	-	0.13
(b) Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-		-	0.73
5. Deaths of Infants (under one year of age).	5	4	1			
(a) Legitimate	5	4	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births					39.6	34
Rate re legitimate infants					39.6	-
Rate re illegitimate infants					-	-
6. Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					19	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					-	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)					-	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)					-	
Deaths from Tuberculosis (all ages)					5	
				Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	0.57	0.51

HYTHE.Causes of Death in the Borough of Hythe during 1948.

	ALL CAUSES	Males	Females
		61	68
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-
3.	Scarlet Fever	-	-
4.	Whooping Cough	-	-
5.	Diphtheria	-	-
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	-
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	-	-
9.	Influenza	-	-
10.	Measles	-	-
11.	Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	-	-
12.	Acute Infective Encephalitis	-	-
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus and uterus	-	2
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
15.	Cancer of Breast	-	-
16.	Cancer of all other sites	11	4
17.	Diabetes	-	2
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	3	16
19.	Heart Diseases	25	32
20.	Other Diseases of the circulatory system	1	2
21.	Bronchitis	1	1
22.	Pneumonia	-	1
23.	Other respiratory diseases	1	-
24.	Ulcer of the stomach or duodenum	1	-
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	-	-
26.	Appendicitis	-	-
27.	Other digestive diseases	1	-
28.	Nephritis	1	3
29.	Puerperal and Post-abortion sepsis	-	-
30.	Other Maternal Causes	-	-
31.	Premature Birth	2	-
32.	Congenital Malformation Birth Injuries	-	-
	Infantile Diseases	3	1
33.	Suicide	1	-
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	1	-
35.	Other violent causes	-	-
36.	All other causes	3	3

There is no significant change from previous years in the numbers of deaths from the various causes; the slight rise in the deaths from heart disease and intra-cranial lesions is, no doubt, accounted for by the increased proportion of persons dying at an advanced age.



HYTHE.Section B.General Provisions of Health Services.
Laboratory Facilities.

As in previous years these are provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone which gives a satisfactory and complete service for the needs of the Borough.

Ambulance.

The Council continued the maintenance of its Ambulance for the conveyance of accident and non-infectious cases until the transfer to the authority of the County Council on July 5th.

The transfer went through smoothly after one or two minor adjustments, and the Borough continues to be served by the same Ambulance and personnel.

The total number of calls during the half year to July 5th was :-

i.e. Illness	98.
Accident	8.

A Hospital Car service staffed by the Red Cross provided for transport of sitting car cases going to Hospital for treatment.

Nursing Homes.

The Registrations of Nursing Homes is administered by the County Council. There is one Nursing Home in Hythe taking mainly maternity cases, and a second is being established mainly for Medical and Surgical work.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

As the County Council was already the authority responsible for these services no changes were necessary on July 5th. The Hythe Maternity and Child Welfare Centre Prospect Road, continues to be well attended; the voluntary helpers at the Centre are as keen and helpful as ever and preserve the personal touch so much appreciated by the mothers. The following sessions are held :-

Ante-natal Clinic	- Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays	A.M.
Womans Welfare Clinic	- First Friday	A.M.
Child Welfare Clinic	- Tuesday and Friday	P.M.
Opthalmic Clinic	- Alternate Thursdays	P.M.
Dental Clinic	- Alternate Mondays and Wednesdays	A.M. &
	(and on Saturday morning at times)	P.M.

Hythe has two Health Visitors, one Midwife and two Home Nurses.

Diphtheria Immunisations are carried out at the Centre; one session a month is set aside for this purpose on the 2nd Friday of each month.

HYTHE.Section C.Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.Notifiable Diseases.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during the year :-

Diseases	No. of cases Notified	No. of cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	16	-	-
Diphtheria	3	3	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Small Pox	-	-	-
Measles	12	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Cerebrospinal Fever	1	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Cellulitis	1	-	-
Total	36	4	1

The number of notifications of Infectious Disease is very low - 36 cases as against 207 for 1947.

Of the three cases of Diphtheria notified, one was a carrier and was removed to Hospital for treatment. All made a good recovery.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

For the half year preceeding the transfer of this service to the County Council the number of children immunised was 64 and 7 received reinforcing doses.

Scabies.

There are now facilities at the Child Welfare Centre, Prospect Road, for the treatment of Scabies. No cases have been notified for 1948.

HYTHE.1948.TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
25.	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
35.	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
45.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55.	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
age unknown	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	6	1	2	4	1	-	-

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis recovered and was therefore removed from the Register.

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.48. = 54.

		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Numbers for	1948	24	25	3	2	54
"	1947	24	18	3	1	46
"	1946	22	15	1	1	39
"	1945	24	11	4	3	42
"	1944	22	12	3	2	39
"	1943	13	11	2	2	28
"	1942	10	11	1	3	25

Section D.Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.(1) WATER.

The district is supplied by the Council's own water undertaking and the supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. During the summer months when the population is increased by visitors and day trippers, it is necessary to augment the supply from the Folkestone Water Company.

HYTHE.Water (Contd).Examinations of samples taken during
the Year.

	<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
	No.	Results	No.	Results
Raw Water	89	85 satisfactory 4 unsatisfactory	22	satisfactory
Treated Water	17	17 satisfactory	2	satisfactory
Total	106		24	

99% of the total number of dwelling houses is supplied by public water mains, and 1% by means of standpipes.

(2) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No alterations, improvements, or developments in respect of sewerage systems or sewage disposal schemes have taken place during the year, with the exception of small extensions to provide a service for 43 new Council Houses.

98% of the houses etc. have main drainage.

There are 83 cesspools, 5 pail-closets and 2 privy middens in the area.

(3) GENERAL including a summary of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and his Department.

	<u>No. in District.</u>	<u>No. of Inspe- ctions.</u>	<u>No. of Defects found.</u>	<u>No. of Defects remedied.</u>
Bakehouses	6	31	2	2
Dairies	5	49	-	-
Slaughterhouses		596	Public Abattoir	
Other food preparing places	28	101	-	-
Offensive Trades	Nil	-	-	-
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	-	-	-
Houses let in Lodgings	Nil	-	-	-
Factories	93	129	3	3

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR.

(other than those enumerated above)

Drainage		Walls & ceilings	10
(a) Reconstructed	1	Doors & windows	6
(b) Repaired	2	Ventilation	2
Refuse receptacles	102	Baths, lavatory basins	
Dampness	6	and sinks	1
Roofs, Rainwater pipes	8	Cooking & heating appliances	5
Offensive Accumulations	2	Cesspool repair	1
Chimneys	3	Keeping of animals	2
Floors	4		

HYTHE.

Total No. of Inspections of all kinds during the year	2,411
W.Cs. into drainage system	2,528
W.Cs. into cesspools	83
Pail-closets	5
Earthclosets or middens	2
No. of premises not connected to Public Water Supply	14
No. of Statutory Notices served	2
No. of Informal Notices served	24
No. of premises disinfected	24

(4) RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION, DISINFECTION ETC.

111 complaints were received of minor infestations and were dealt with by the Rodent Officer. The following figures regarding estimated kill are based on the Ministry of Food formula :-

Infestations found - rats	87
do. - mice	24
Estimated kill - rats	238
do. - mice	256

The third inspection of sewers was carried out during May, 1948. No "takes" were recorded during this investigation.

Seven premises were reported as verminous from other causes (three from bugs and four from fleas) and were satisfactorily disinfected.

(5) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

There is no change to report in the manner or means of collection and disposal of refuse. There is a gradual increase in the amount of refuse to be collected as new properties are being built or single houses converted into flats. A census is now being taken to assess the amount and location of the increases but so far a general improvement in organisation and efficiency has enabled the weekly collection to be maintained with the existing plant.

84 cesspools have been emptied during the year.

Salvage.

Details of salvage sales for the year with comparable figures for 1946 and 1947 are as follows :-

	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Waste Paper	115. 5. 3.	252. 1. 2.	447. 7. 3.
Kitchen Waste	60. 17. 9.	68. 11. 9.	76. 8. 6.
Bottles and Jars	64. 15. 5.	46. 9. 3.	38. 19. 3.
Metals	40. 3. 11.	28. 7. 2.	15. 2. 10.
Bones	7. 12. 8.	1. 11. 6.	15. 11. .
Textiles	15. 9. 8.	14. 10. .	30. 17. 6.
	<u>304. 4. 8.</u>	<u>411. 10. 10.</u>	<u>609. 11. 3.</u>

The actual collection for this year was 69 tons 3½ cwt.

HYTHE.Section E.FOOD.(a) Milk

No. of cowkeepers on register	4
No. of retailers on register	7
No. of milk shops in district	3

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936-38.

Licences for the year granted under the above Orders were :-

Licence in respect of an establishment (not being an establishment at which the milk is produced) at which the milk is bottled 3

Supplementary licence with respect to milk sold from a shop or other establishment which is outside the area of the licensing authority 2

Licence in respect of the establishment in which the process of pasteurizing is carried on and of any shop or other establishment in the area of the same licensing authority at or from which the milk is sold by the same dealer 3

The following samples of milk were taken during the year :-

	<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested	18	6
Pasteurised	8	2
Heat Treated	1	1
Ordinary	-	-

(b) Ice Cream

During the summer season 31 samples of ice-cream were taken for examination by the Methylene Blue reduction test as recommended by the circular accompanying the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations 1947. Advice was given to manufacturers and dealers on the results of these examinations and a distinct improvement was recorded at the end of the season which encourages a forecast that when apparatus is easier to obtain a good general standard of bacterial cleanliness should be easily maintained.

HYTHE.Ice Cream (contd.)

The results of most of these samples are summarised in the following table :-

Dealer	Type of Premises	Is dealer a Manufacturer	Grade of Sample						Remarks
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
A.	Van	Yes			4	4			see below
B	Shop	No			4	4	1		
C	Shop/Cafe	Yes			1		4	1	
D	Shop	Yes	4	4		4		3	see below
E	Shop/Cafe	No	2		2		2		see below
F	Shop	Yes	4	3	1	2		2	
G	Shop	No		4	4	2	1	3	
H	Cafe	Yes				4	2		

Notes.

A. Submission of these results to the Local Authority where this ice-cream was manufactured has brought the information that every sample taken from the factory has been reported as Grade 1. These results show that sale from travelling vans is not satisfactory unless means of sterilising serving implements is provided on the van.

D. No material improvement. Waiting for delivery of sterilising equipment which had been on order for nearly two years.

E. Consistently satisfactory results.

All other premises show an improvement during the year.

(c) Meat (Home Killed).

The number of animals killed in the Public Slaughterhouse was :-

Cattle	2,839
Sheep	5,476
Pigs	182
Calves	1,871

The amount of meat condemned as unfit for food was:-
24 tons 17 cwt. 2 lbs. The income for the year was:-
£761.15s.9d.

HYTHE.Meat (contd).Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected.	2,192	647	1,871	5,476	181
.....
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	2	2	9	46	4
.....
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	712	219	-	592	5
.....
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	32.5	34.1	0.4	11.6	4.2
.....
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	14	26	-	-	4
.....
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	216	138	-	-	7
.....
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	10.5	25.3	-	-	6.04

(d) Other Foods.

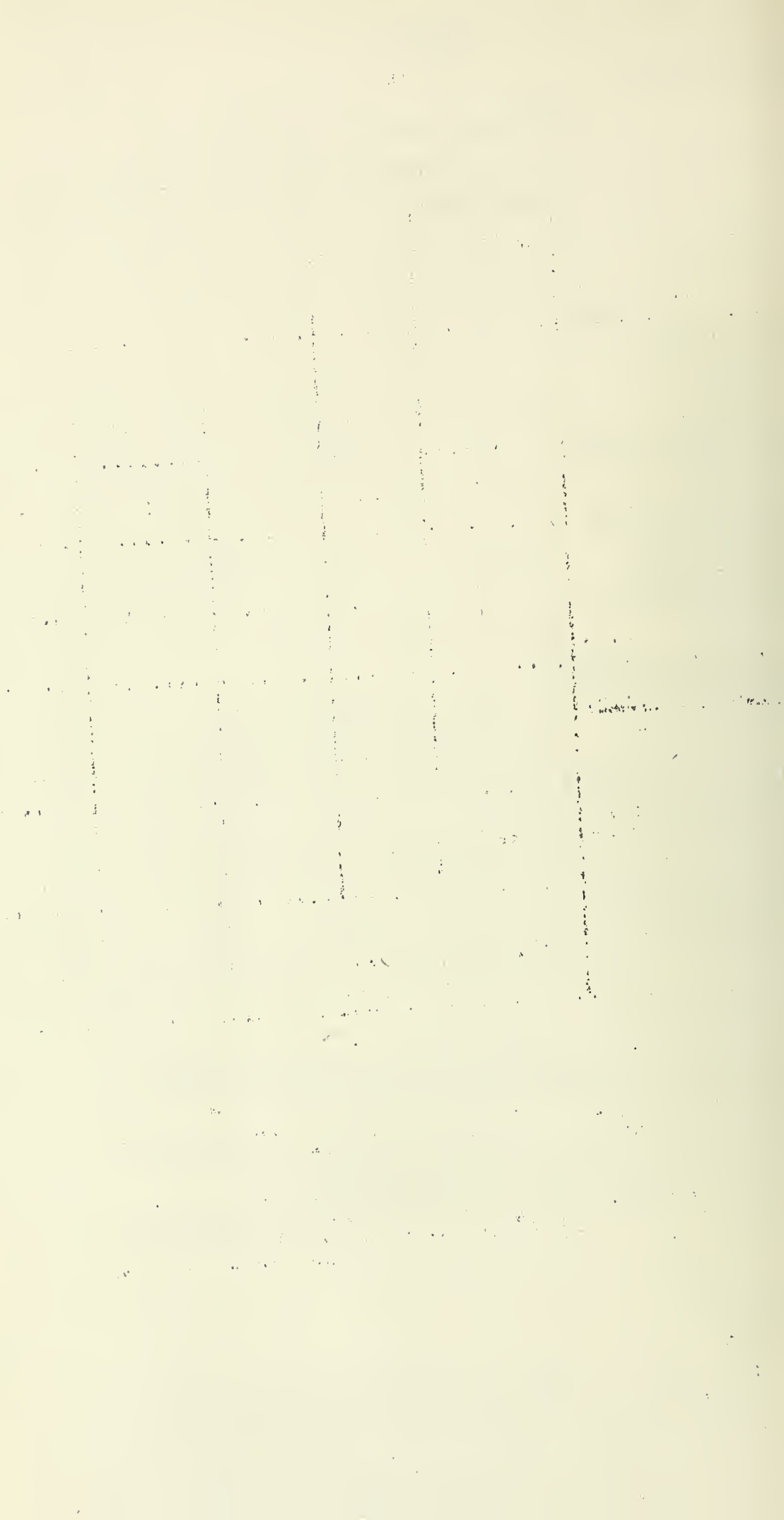
During the year the following foodstuffs were
surrendered as unsound and unfit for food in shops and
other premises where food is prepared :-

476 tins of food of various descriptions.
7 cwts. 1 qr 5½ lbs of Fish.
2 cwts 1 qr 17 lbs Imported Meat.
1 cwt 27 lbs of food of various descriptions.

Section F.HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing
defects (under Public Health & Housing Acts)
2. Number of dwelling houses (including 1 above) which
were inspected or recorded under the Housing
Consolidated Regs 1925-1932



HYTHE.Section F. (contd).

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

1. Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 22

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 2
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:-.....
 - (a) By Owners 1
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 1

Shortage of new accommodation and high cost of building and repairs were still serious obstacles to good progress in keeping up housing standards during the year. A proposal to exercise powers of purchase under Section 72, Housing Act, 1936, in respect of several houses regarded as unfit for habitation and likely to be demolished when circumstances become more normal has been rejected by the Ministry of Health on the grounds that such houses should be dealt with by Demolition Orders under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936 after other accommodation has been found for the occupiers. As the latter condition is so difficult to carry out it appears that the Council's powers under the Housing Acts will be difficult to exercise for some time to come.

At this time when the past work of the Council is coming under review it is interesting to note that in 12 years from 1925 to 1937, 104 houses were either demolished or closed as unfit for habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost.

In 12 years since 1937, no houses have been dealt with in this way. It is inevitable, therefore, that general housing standards must be deteriorating to some extent.

COUNCIL HOUSES.

269 Council Houses were in occupation at the end of the year with 9 in course of erection and very shortly to be completed. This is an increase of 34 during the year.

There are also 21 houses or flats under requisition.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.STATISTICS 1948.Section A.

Area	51,399 acres.
Population	9,903 (Registrar General's estimate for 1948).
No. of inhabited houses (approx.)	3,431.
Rateable Value	£40,461.
Sum represented by penny rate	£158 (estimated).

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.
1948.

	Total	M.	F.		East Ashford	England & Wales
1. Live Births	189	90	99	Birth rate		
(a) Legitimate	175	82	83	per 1,000	19.0	17.9
(b) Illegitimate	14	8	6	estimated		
				resident population)		
2. Still Births	5	3	2	Rate per		
(a) Legitimate	4	3	1	1,000 total	25.7	-
(b) Illegitimate	1	-	1	(live and		
				still)		
				births		
				Rate per		
				1,000	0.50	0.42
				estimated		
				resident population)		
3. Deaths	125	70	55	Death rate	12.6	10.8
				per 1,000	-	0.13
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-	resident population)		
				Rate per		
				1,000	-	0.73
(b) Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-	(live &		
				still)		
				births		
4. Deaths of Infants under one year of Age	5	3	2			
(a) Legitimate	4	2	2			
(b) Illegitimate	1	1	-			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births					26.4	34.0
Rate re legitimate infants					22.8	
Rate re illegitimate infants					71.4	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)					17	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					-	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)					-	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)					1	
				Rate per	5.3	3.3
				1,000 live		
				births		
Deaths from Influenza				Rate per 1,000	-	0.03
				civilian population)		
Deaths from Tuberculosis						
				Rate per 1,000	0.20	0.51
				civilian population)		

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Section B.General Provisions of Health Services.
Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone which gives a complete and satisfactory service for the area.

Ambulance.

An ambulance service is provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade centred at Ashford. Illness cases are also removed to Hospital by the Hospitals own Ambulances. This arrangement continues under the new scheme.

Nursing Homes.

The registration of Nursing Homes is administered by the County Council. There is one such home in the area.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The County Council is the Authority responsible for these services.

Four County Council Health Visitors serve the area, and Child Welfare Clinics are held at Aldington, Brabourne, Chilham, Hamstreet, Hastingleigh, Mersham and Nye. Mothers can attend the Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics in Ashford or Canterbury.

Section C.Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.Notifiable Diseases.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>No. of cases Notified.</u>	<u>No. of cases removed to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	3	-
Whooping Cough	28	-	-
Diphtheria	1	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Small Pox	-	-	-
Measles	52	-	-
Pneumonia	7	-	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-

The number of notifications of Infectious Disease was very low.

The single case of Acute Poliomyelitis was a very mild one and made a good recovery.

In the one case of Food Poisoning notified the patient was known to have contracted the infection outside the area.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the half year preceding the transfer of this service to the County Council, the number of children immunised was 31 and 3 received reinforcing injections.

TUBERCULOSIS 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
25.	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
35.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45.	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
55.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	2	4	1	2	-	-	-

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.48. = 66.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Numbers for 1948	23	17	17	9	66
" " 1947	20	18	14	9	61
" " 1946	13	13	12	8	46
" " 1945	11	10	11	7	39
" " 1944	8	9	11	3	31
" " 1943	5	11	8	3	27
" " 1942	5	5	9	5	24

Two cases were reported to have recovered during the year and their names were removed from the register.

Section D.

Sanitary circumstances of the area, incorporating the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(1) Water.

A skeleton system of water mains exists in every Parish of the Rural District and the supply generally is good. Little further progress was made during 1948 in extending water mains to the more remote areas, though schemes have been submitted to the County Council prior to forwarding them for approval of the Ministry of Health. Some 99 more houses were connected with existing water mains during the year 1948.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Water (contd).Examinations of samples taken during the year.

	<u>Bacteriological</u>			<u>Chemical</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Results</u>	
Raw Water	10	3 unsatisfactory	3	3 good.	
Treated Water	5	Good	Nil	-	

Slightly over 76% of the number of dwelling houses is supplied by public water mains.

The following is a list showing the number and proportion of houses connected with the Mid-Kent Water Company's water mains in each Parish of the Rural District in 1948 :-

<u>PARISH.</u>	<u>No. of Dwelling Houses.</u>	<u>Houses connected with Mid-Kent water Company's Mains.</u>
Aldington	229	150
Bilsington	99	70
Bonnington	40	28
Boughton Aluph	187	164
Brabourne	227	158
Brook	50	56
Challock	126	127
Chilham	390	328
Crundale	59	36
Eastwell	33	16
Godmersham	86	77
Hastingleigh	75	73
Mersham	190	135
Molash	68	63
Orlestone	112	134
Ruckinge	218	151
Smeeth	190	143
Warehorne	107	92
Wye	480	336
Hinxhill	21	
Sevington	55	
Total	3,042	Total 2,337

The Mid-Kent Water Company have monthly bacteriological examinations of the raw water taken from each of their Pumping Stations, all water is chlorinated. Particulars of the examinations and analyses are supplied, and there has been no form of contamination. The quantity and quality are satisfactory and there is no plumbo solvent action. All water is supplied direct to houses.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.water (contd).

Houses connected to Ashford Urban District Council main :-

Hinxhill	Houses 11
Sevington	" 33

Bacteriological analyses of the water supply from the Ashford Urban District Council are taken quarterly both from the mains and at source.

The Chemical and Bacteriological reports were very good; Chlorination takes place at source, and supplies to properties in this area are direct from the mains.

Smeth Plain: The Elham Valley Water Company supply eight properties.

(2) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

There were no alterations made during the year 1946. Schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal for various parts of East Ashford Rural District have been submitted to the Kent County Council. Wye and Hamstreet are drained and sewered. Smaller scale sewerage systems also drain parts of Mersham and The Square, Chilham.

(3) General.

	<u>No. in District.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>	<u>No. of Defects found.</u>	<u>No. of Defects remedied.</u>
Bakehouses	9	13	3	3
Dairies	131	90	28	25
Slaughter-houses	10	-	-	-
Other Food preparing places	10	7	-	-
Offensive Trades	Nil	-	-	-
Common Lodging Houses	Nil	-	-	-
Houses let in lodgings	Nil	-	-	-
Factories	51	25	3	3

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR.

(other than those enumerated previously)

Drainage		Walls and ceilings	10
(a) Reconstructed	47	Doors and windows	7
(b) Repaired	31	Ventilation	5
Refuse Receptacles	-	Baths, lavatory basins and sinks	8
Dampness	8	Water Supplies	11
Roofs, rainwater pipes	9	Cooking and heating appliances	5
Offensive Accumulations	7		
Closet Accommodation	28		

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.General (contd).

Total No. of Inspections of all kinds during the year	2,800
W.Cs. into drainage system	544
W.Cs. into cesspools	1,034
Pail-Closets and Chemical Closets	1,374
Earth Closets or Middens	90
No. of Premises not connected to Public Water Supply	648
No. of Statutory Notices served	4
No. of informal Notices served	59
No. of premises disinfected	7

Control of infestation.

Rat destruction: 39 infestations of rats were dealt with by the Rat Operator and the total estimated kill was 1,039. Routine baiting of the Council's refuse tips is carried out.

Insect Infestation: 11 infestations with cock-roaches, fleas, ants and flies were dealt with, principally by the loan of insecticides with atomisers and powder-blowers and the giving of advice on the subject.

Public Cleansing.

House Refuse: The collection of dry house refuse is carried out once monthly throughout the District with the exception of the town area of Wye where the collection is made twice weekly. The principal refuse tips covering the District are at Crundale Lime Works, Crundale, and the Kent County Council Quarry, Aldington.

Emptying of Cesspools: The emptying of cesspools in all parts of the District is undertaken twice yearly by the Council on written request made by Householders. This work is carried out by Contract.

Emptying of pail-closets: As in previous years, the emptying of pail-closets is carried out in the Parish of Boughton Aluph and part of the Parish of Chilham. In the Parish of Boughton Aluph the emptying is carried out once weekly and the number to be emptied is 72. In the Parish of Chilham emptying is carried out twice weekly in an area covering The Square, The Street and the Railway Station, and the number to be emptied is now reduced to 32.

Salvage of Waste Paper: A special monthly collection of Waste Paper is made in the District and the total amount collected during the year 1948 was 69 tons 10 cwts.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Section B.FOOD.(a) Milk.

In spite of the continued difficulties of labour and materials, steady improvement generally was made in the conditions of production. The milk supply was maintained at a satisfactory standard during the year. 12 new producers of milk were registered during the year 1948.

No. of producers	133
No. of producer retailers	37
No. of retailers	4

Seven new cowsheds were erected, eight converted from existing buildings and 15 cowsheds were improved. 14 new dairies or milk cooling rooms were provided.

No. of farms licensed to produce :-

(i) "Accredited" Milk	9
(ii) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	24

Milk Samplings:-

It is gratifying to note the increase in the number of Farms producing Tuberculin Tested Milk - 24 in 1948 (15 in 1947), and to note the increased proportion of satisfactory samples.

	<u>No. of samples taken.</u>	<u>No. of unsatisfactory samples.</u>
"Accredited"	26	6
"Tuberculin Tested"	73	15
Non-designated	-	-

No. of samples (exclusive of those mentioned above) collected for bacteriological examination = 1.

(b) Ice Cream.

8 shops are registered for the sale or storage of Ice Cream. There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream in the District.

(c) Meat.

There are no Slaughterhouses at present in ordinary use in the District. 10 butchers are registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.(d) Other Foods.

Unsound Food: On twenty-two occasions unsound food was voluntarily surrendered at shops in the Rural District, part of this was destroyed and other items returned to depots controlled by the Ministry of Food. The items condemned included the following :-

Butchers meat	446 lbs.
Corned beef and mutton	144 lbs.
Rolled Oats and Oatmeal	224 lbs.
Granulated sugar	336 lbs.
Other items	8 lbs.

Section F.HOUSING.

Shortage of labour etc. still restricted the carrying out of essential repairs and improvements to houses and small appreciable progress was made. Owing to the continued housing shortage, no improvement was made in the re-housing of persons from unfit houses. During the year 1948, the total number of new houses erected in the District was 99, this includes the completion of 60 Council Houses.

Rural Housing Survey.

The Survey in the District is complete with the exception of 33 houses in the Parish of Chilham and 16 others in various parts of the District. The total number of houses inspected and recorded is 2,568 and the classification of these is as follows :-

Category 1. (houses satisfactory in all respects) ..	286
" 2.	816
" 3.	925
" 4.	236
" 5. (houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair)	305

Action under Statutory Powers.

Houses demolished in pursuance of sub-section (4) of Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936 Nil

Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936 1

No. of houses in respect of which undertakings were given to close for habitation, given by the owners under Section 11(3) of the Housing Act 1936 Nil

No. of houses repaired and made habitable on notice served under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1936 Nil

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Houses erected by the Council.

During the year 1948, the erection of 60 new Council Houses was completed, making a total for the post-war period of 96. At the end of 1948, there were also 42 Council Houses in course of construction. The total number of occupied houses owned by the Council at the end of 1948 was 202, equal to 6.6% of the total number of houses in the District.

In addition 29 separate hutments or buildings relinquished by the armed forces were in temporary use as dwellings, having been adapted for the purpose by the Council.

Houses erected by Private Enterprise.

During the year 1948, 23 houses were erected by Private Enterprise. Ten houses were also erected by the Forestry Commission at Duck Street, Challock (Parish of Wye) and six at Sole Street, Crundale.

Housing needs of the District.

Apart from the question of re-housing persons from unfit houses, there is still a general need for additional houses of the 3 bedroom type, also a proportion of those of the two bedroom type for elderly people and those without young families.

Hop Pickers Camps.

The number of camps usually occupied during the hop-picking season is 13, all of which are in the Parish of Chilham. The total number of huts is 540 and the number of imported pickers is approximately 2,000. The water supply in all cases is sufficient, and is almost entirely from the main supply. At one camp action has been taken to secure the replacement of a group of 24 huts which are subject to flooding in bad weather. At the same camp some improvement has been requested in the drainage of roofs and the ground surrounding the huts which is apt to become waterlogged. Paving or cementing of earth floors to certain huts has been urged on the Owners. The closet accommodation of the camps is all of the portable or pail-closet type. Scavenging and camp supervision continue to require further improvement.

The total number of visits to camps made before and during occupation was 47.

Section A.

STATISTICS 1948.

Area	36,685 acres.
Population	8,757 (Registrar General's estimate for 1948).
No. of inhabited houses	2,731.
Rateable Value	£53,467.
Sum represented by penny rate	£208 (estimated).

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		Elham Valley	England & Wales
1. Live Births	142	73	69	birth rate)		
(a) Legitimate	131	69	62	per 1,000	16.2	17.9
(b) Illegitimate	11	4	7	estimated resident population)		
2. Still Births	3	1	2	Rate per		
(a) Legitimate	2	1	1	1,000	20.68	-
(b) Illegitimate	1	-	1	total (live & still) Births		
				Rate per		
				1,000	0.34	0.42
				estimated resident population)		
3. Deaths	407	61	46	Death rate	12.2,	10.8
				per 1,000 resident population)		
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes						
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-	Rate per	-	0.13
				1,000 (live & still) births		
(b) Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-			
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of Age	4	1	3			0.73
(a) Legitimate	3	1	2			
(b) Illegitimate	1	-	1			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births					28.1	34.0
Rate re legitimate infants					22.9	
Rate re illegitimate infants					90.9	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	15					
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-					
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-					
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-					
Deaths from Poliomyelitis	1					
Deaths from Influenza (all ages)	2					
Influenza Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population)					0.22	0.05
Deaths from Tuberculosis	5					
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population,					0.68	0.51

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.Causes of Death 1948.

ALL CAUSES	Males	Females
	61	46
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	2
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases	-	-
9. Influenza	-	2
10. Measles	-	-
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	1	-
12. Acute Infective Encephalitis	-	-
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus and uterus	2	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
15. Cancer of breast	-	-
16. Cancer of all other sites	5	5
17. Diabetes	1	1
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	11	5
19. Heart Diseases	19	11
20. Other Diseases of the circulatory system	5	4
21. Bronchitis	4	3
22. Pneumonia	2	1
23. Other respiratory diseases	-	-
24. Ulcer of the stomach or duodenum	1	-
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-
26. Appendicitis	-	-
27. Other digestive diseases	-	1
28. Nephritis	-	3
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion sepsis	-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes.	-	-
31. Premature Birth	-	-
32. Congenital Malformation Birth Injuries Infantile Diseases	2	3
33. Suicide	-	-
34. Road Traffic Accidents	-	-
35. Other violent causes	-	-
36. All other causes	3	3

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.Section B.General Provisions of Health Services.
Laboratory Facilities.

As in the previous years the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone gives a satisfactory and complete service for the needs of the area.

Ambulance.

No special Ambulance serves the whole area but part of the area is served by the Borough of Hythe Ambulance. Cases for removal to Hospital are taken by the Hospital's own Ambulance, and accident cases are dealt with by summoning the nearest available Ambulance; no difficulties have arisen either before or since the transfer of authority of this service on July 5th.

Nursing Homes.

The registration and supervision of Nursing Homes is carried out by the Kent County Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services. The areas allotted to the County Council's Health Visitors do not correspond with the District Councils areas.

Elham Rural District is served by four County Council Health Visitors and there are four Infant Welfare Centres in the area held at Elham, Hawkinge, Lyminge and Sellindge.

Section C.Prevalence and control over Infectious Disease.Notifiable Diseases.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during the year:-

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>No. of cases notified.</u>	<u>No. of cases removed to Hospital.</u>	<u>No. of Deaths.</u>
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	2	-
Whooping Cough	29	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Small Pox	-	-	-
Measles	27	-	-
Pneumonia	2	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	4	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-

The year was not marked by any epidemic and the number of notifications is low.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

There were 4 cases of Poliomyelitis. one case a boy of 6 years was severely ill and died before the diagnosis was finally confirmed; two, a boy of 3 years and a girl of 8 years had considerable paralysis at first but recovered without disability; the fourth was a mild case and completely recovered.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Prior to the transfer of this service to the Kent County Council on July 5th, the number of cases immunised was 27 and one child received a reinforcing injection.

TUBERCULOSIS - 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55.	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
65.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	3	-	1	3	2	-	1

Two Non-Pulmonary cases were reported as cured and removed from the register.

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.48. = 55.

			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
			M	F	M	F	
Years	from	1948	27	22	-	6	55
"	"	1947	25	24	1	8	58
"	"	1946	24	16	1	11	52
"	"	1945	22	12	1	7	42
"	"	1944	14	9	1	6	30
"	"	1943	12	9	2	4	27
"	"	1942	12	6	4	4	26

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.SECTION D.

Sanitary circumstances of the area incorporating the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(1) Water Supply.

The quality and quantity of the water supplied by the four Statutory Water Undertakers has been satisfactory throughout the year. Of the nineteen schemes for extension of mains, submitted under the Rural water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, fourteen were approved in principle by the Ministry of Health on the 30th December, 1948, and await Treasury Sanction for a starting date; so an insufficiency of water still exists in parts of the area.

Examination of Samples taken during the year.

	<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
	No.	Result	No.	Result
Raw water - piped	18	7 satisfactory 11 unsatisfactory	5	5 satisfactory
- non piped	9	1 satisfactory 8 unsatisfactory	6	4 satisfactory 2 unsatisfactory
Treated water	20	20 satisfactory	1	1 satisfactory
Totals	47		12	

The unsatisfactory samples of untreated piped water were taken from small estate supplies, and in each case the owner has been requested to instal chlorinating apparatus, in one case this has been done, and the required standard of purity has been obtained. In two further cases active consideration is being given to the matter. The unsatisfactory samples from non-piped supplies were taken from wells and rain water storage tanks. These can only be remedied when an alternative supply becomes available by extension of mains.

70% of the total number of dwelling houses have piped supplies of water, the remaining 30% obtain their supplies from wells and rainwater tanks.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

No. of houses with Piped Water Supply at 31.12.48.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>No. of houses with piped supply</u>		<u>Remarks</u>
		<u>Direct to house</u>	<u>Stand-pipe</u>	
Acrise	36	29	nil	Treated water
Elham	428	209	24	do
Elmsted	100	91	nil	do
Hawkinge	259	239	nil	do
Lyminge	432	332	3	do
Lynpne	196	128	3	do
Monks Horton	42	9	nil	do
Newington	112	55	16	(pt. treated pt. untreated)
Paddlesworth	12	5	nil	Treated water
Postling	49	30	nil	do
Saltwood	284	243	15	do
Sellindge	267	189	10	do
Stanford	141	87	12	do
Stelling and Stelling Minnis	108	43	nil	do
Stowting	63	16	nil	Untreated water
Swingfield	202	139	nil	Treated water
	2,731	1,844	88	

(2) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

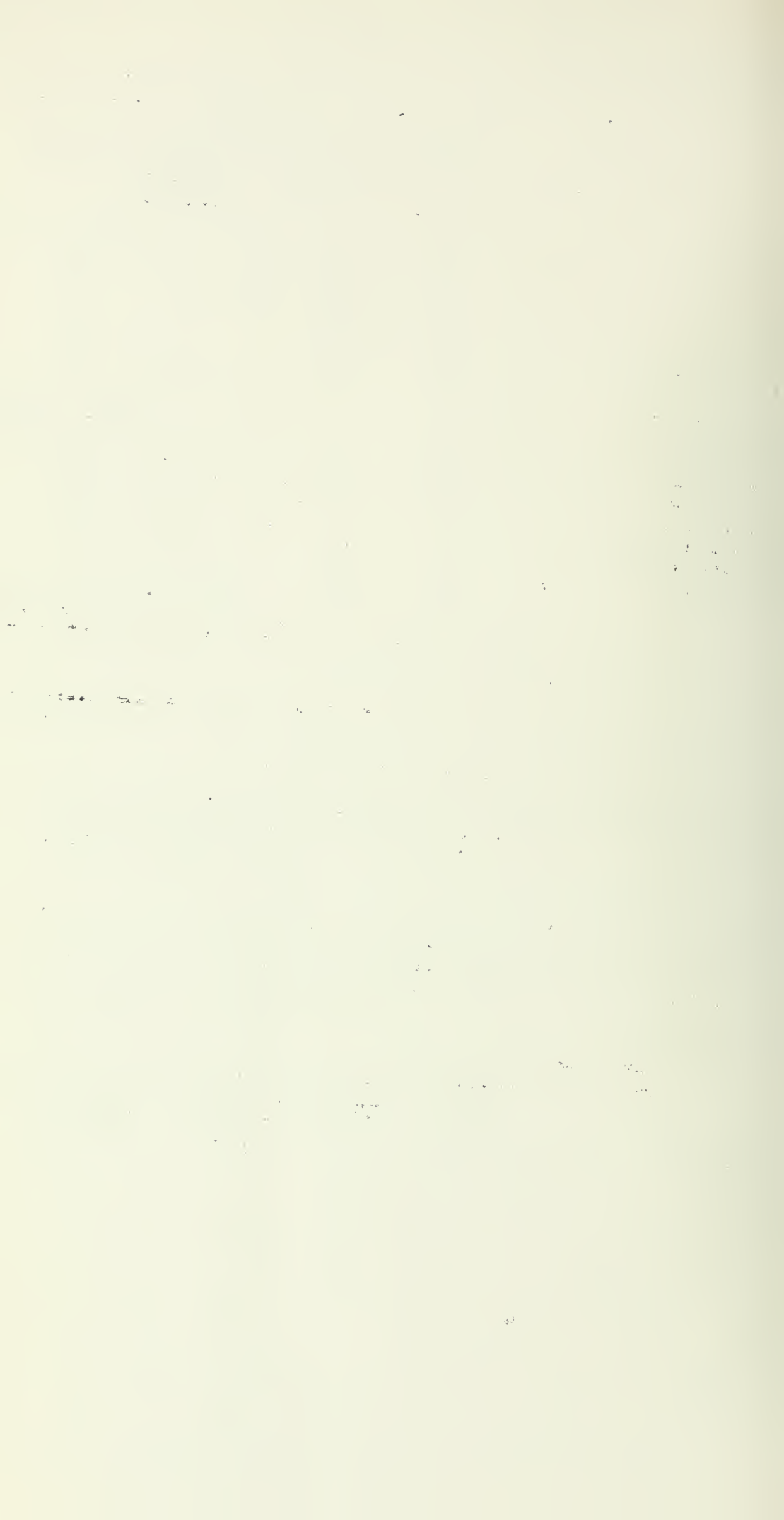
There is main drainage in the Saltwood Parish only. All cesspools and some pail closets are emptied as and when necessary, a third 800 gallon cesspool emptier is on order.

The Engineer's Report on the sewerage of eight Parishes has been received, and submitted to the County Council and the Ministry of Health for consideration. Main drainage is urgently required in at least two Parishes in order to avoid pollution of water courses.

(3) General.

	<u>No. in Distr-ict</u>	<u>No. of inspe-ctions</u>	<u>No. of Defects found</u>	<u>Number remedied</u>
Bakehouses	6	31	3 [#]	2 [#]
Cowsheds	112	509	7 [#]	7 [#]
Dairies	4	20	-	-
Slaughterhouses	5	63	1	1
Other food preparing places	18	61	1	1
Oricassive trades	2	11	2	1
Common lodging houses	nil	nil	nil	nil
Houses let in lodgings	nil	nil	nil	nil
Factories	53	31	2	2

[#]see also Section "E"



ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.General (contd).

Total no. of inspections of all kinds during the year 3,194.

Nuisances and defects remedied during year:-	293
Drainage	
(a) Reconstruction	13
(b) Repairs	21
Sanitary accommodation	12
Refuse receptacles	68
Dampness	19
Roofs, Rainwater pipes	20
Offensive accumulations	3
Miscellaneous	8
Walls and ceilings	17
Doors and windows	16
Ventilation	7
Baths, lavatory basins and sinks	21
Water supplies	32
Cooking and heating appliances	10
Floors	17
Yard surfaces	9
W.C.s into drainage system	264
W.C.s into cesspools	1,874
Pail closets	700
Earth closets	9
No. of premises not connected to public water supply	799
No. of Statutory Notices served	5
No. of premises disinfected	8

(4) Rats and Mice.

A part-time Rodent Operator is employed, and disinfestation work is carried out in accordance with the formula suggested by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. There have been no serious infestations within the District but many minor ones have been satisfactorily dealt with.

(5) Fleas and Bugs.

No cases of bug infestation were reported or came to light during routine inspections, advice has been given in connection with several minor infestations of fleas and these were dealt with by the occupiers or owners. Several serious infestations of dwellings by the common house fly have been dealt with by fumigation of attics and bedrooms.

(6) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Collection of refuse and salvage is undertaken by direct labour, using one 10 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle with driver and three loaders. Refuse and salvage is collected fortnightly throughout the whole area, with the exception of the village of Saltwood, where collection takes place once a week. Disposal of refuse is carried out by controlled tipping on four tips in the area, and several sites have been placed back under cultivation. The sum of £123 has been received for the sale of salvaged materials during the year.

RAMAN RUAL DISTRICT.(7) Pollution of Rivers and Streams.

Two major cases of pollution of watercourses have occurred during the year due to wastes from houses and farms discharging into the streams. The pollution cannot be adequately dealt with until main drainage is provided.

Section B.FOOD.(a) Milk.

No. of producers	112.
No. of producer retailers	19.
No. of retailers	8.

The number of farms licensed to produce Designated milk is :-

(i) "Accredited" milk	9.
(ii) "Tuberculin Tested" milk	28.

A slight increase in the number of farms licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk is a move in the right direction.

Samples taken:-

	<u>No. of samples taken.</u>	<u>No. of unsatisfactory samples.</u>
(i) Accredited	37	nil
(ii) Tuberculin Tested	105	6
(iii) Non-designated	5	nil
(iv) Biological test ...	2	nil

Pasteurised Milk.

	<u>No. of samples taken.</u>	<u>No. of unsatisfactory samples.</u>
Methylene Blue test	9	nil
Phosphatase test	9	1

There is one Pasteurising establishment using the "Holder" process in the District, three licences to retail Pasteurised milk and three to retail Tuberculin Tested milk are also in operation in the area.

It is worthy of note that 158 samples were taken, but only 7 failed to pass the prescribed tests. Very special attention has been paid to milk production during the year, involving 529 visits to cowsheds and dairies. 12 new cowsheds and ten new dairies have been built and 15 cowsheds and ten dairies have been reconditioned during the year. Further improvement could be made if co-operation existed between the local authority and the Regional Milk Testing Advisory Service.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.(b) Ice Cream.

Nine premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. Five samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination, no pathogenic organisms were cultivated in any of the samples, but three were placed in Grade IV. In one case, the ice cream was manufactured within the District and the Producer has since given up business.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

There are no government slaughterhouses in operation in the District, but some killing has taken place under Ministry of Food permits. Sixty-two pigs and three sheep were inspected. The following foodstuffs were surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

101 lbs.	home killed beef and offal.
25 lbs.	imported beef.
9 lbs.	home killed mutton.
4 lbs.	calves sweetbread.
13 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	bacon.
27 doz.	fish cakes.
66 tins	various foodstuffs.
14 lbs.	kippers.

Section F.HOUSING.

No. of inspections during the year	500
Notices served - Informal	97
- Statutory	5
Notices complied, Informal	155
Statutory	5

Some improvement has taken place in connection with essential repairs to houses, but owing to the high cost of repairs and low rents, very few major improvements have been carried out, and it is difficult to see that these can be made until the Housing and Rent Restrictions Acts are amended.

Rural Housing Survey.

No. of houses to be surveyed	2,171
No. of houses surveyed to 31/12/48	988
No. of houses placed in Category 1	231
" " " " " " 2	266
" " " " " " 3	363
" " " " " " 4	59
" " " " " " 5	59

Council Houses.

The number of Council Houses erected during 1948 was thirty-four, making a total of ninety-four local authority owned dwellings, which is 3.4% of the total number of houses in the District. There is still a need for more houses of two and three bedroom type.

Section A.STATISTICS 1948.

Area	39,453 acres.
Population	9,187 (Registrar General's estimate for 1948).
No. of inhabited houses	3,460 (approx.)
Rateable Value	£39,141.
Sum represented by penny rate	£156.6

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS 1948.

	Total	M.	F.		West Ashford	England & Wales
1. Live Births	186	104	82	Birth rate)		
(a) Legitimate	177	98	79	per 1,000)	20.67	17.9
(b) Illegitimate	9	6	3	estimated)		
				resident)		
				population)		
2. Still Births	4	4	-	Rate per)		
(a) Legitimate	4	4	-	1,000)	21.1	-
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	total)		
				(live &)		
				still))		
				births)		
				Rate per)		
				1,000)	0.43	0.42
				estimated)		
				resident)		
				population)		
3. Deaths	118	61	57	Death rate)	12.84	10.8
				per 1,000)		
				resident)		
				population)		
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes						
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	-	Rate per)	-	0.13
				1,000)		
				(live &)		
				still))		
				births)		
(b) Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-		-	0.73
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of Age	5	2	3			
(a) Legitimate	3	2	1			
(b) Illegitimate	2	-	2			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live)				births)	26.7	34.0
Rate re legitimate infants					16.9	
Rate re illegitimate infants					222.2	
6. Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				25		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				-		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)				-		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				-		
Deaths from Influenza				-		
Deaths from Tuberculosis				4		
				Rate per 1,000)	0.43	0.51
				civilian population)		

Section B.General Provision of Health Services.
Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone. This service is very satisfactory and serves all the needs of the area.

Ambulance.

The area is served mainly by the St. John Brigade Ambulance stationed at Ashford and cases for admission to Hospital are removed by the particular Hospital's own Ambulance.

Nursing Homes.

The registration of Nursing Homes is administered by the County Council. There are none in this area.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

The County Council is the Authority responsible for these services.

There are three County Health Visitors working in the area and there are Child welfare Centres at Bethersden, Charing, Egerton, Pluckley, Shadoxhurst and Hothfield.

The Ante-Natal Clinics of Ashford and Tenterden will advise Mothers from this area.

Section C.Prevalence and control over Infectious Disease.Notifiable Diseases.

Disease	No. of cases Notified	No. of cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4 + 1 non-	5	-
Whooping Cough	3 Civilian	-	-
Diphtheria	1 (suspected)	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Small Pox	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Pneumonia	76	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1
Enccephalitis Lethargica	1	1	1
Malaria	-	-	-
Rumps	2	2	-

The single case of Acute Poliomyelitis was a severe one and the muscles of the chest wall were involved; the patient died after some time in hospital.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the half year to July 5th (the time of the transfer of this service to the Kent County Council) the number of children immunised by private Medical Practitioners under the repayment scheme was 17.

TUBERCULOSIS - 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
20.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
25.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
30.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55.	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	1	2	2	2	2	-	-

Two Pulmonary and one Non-pulmonary cases were reported as recovered and removed from the register.

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.48. = 65.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Numbers for 1948	23	26	10	6	65
" " 1947	23	28	9	4	64
" " 1946	15	13	4	2	34
" " 1945	17	25	8	5	55
" " 1944	11	19	8	5	43
" " 1943	12	18	7	4	41
" " 1942	15	17	2	6	40

Section D.Sanitary Circumstances of the area.(1) Water.

The water supply is generally satisfactory, the quality is good, as shown by the quarterly analyses, and is generally sufficient in quantity. There is piped water supply available in every village of the Council's area.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Water (contd).Examinations of samples taken during the year.

	<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Results</u>
Raw water	4	satisfactory	Nil	Nil
.....
Treated Water (if any)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

80% of the total number of dwelling houses is supplied by public water mains.

50 additional houses were connected during the year.

Number of connections to Water Mains to
31/12/48.

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>Houses Supplied</u>	<u>Meters</u>	<u>Houses in Parish</u>
Bethersden	282	64	421
Charing	426	84	555
Egerton	140	27	236
Great Chart	112	43	200
Rothfield (including Huts)	55	16	130
Kingsnorth	225	29	261
Little Chart	93	19	84
Pluckley	224	51	276
Shadoxhurst	153	23	186
Smarden	271	56	302
Westwell (including Huts)	256	65	456
Total	2,237	477	3,107

Monthly Bacteriological examinations are made of the raw water from each of the Pumping Stations, and all water is chlorinated. Particulars of Bacteriological examinations and Chemical Analysis are forwarded constantly and show no form of contamination.

All water is supplied direct to houses, none by means of standpipes in the roads.

The water supply is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

There is no Plumbo Solvent action, lead piping is not used.

(2) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The proposals drawn up for the extensive additions to the sewage disposal arrangements for the parishes of Charing Heath, Egerton and Pluckley during 1947 have now been submitted to the Ministry of Health and the County Council. The two schemes for Egerton and Charing Heath have been approved in principle by the County Council subject to slight modifications, but the scheme at Pluckley is not approved at the present time. The new extension to the sewer in Charing has been made to take the new Housing Estate of 55 houses.

Section E.FOOD.(a) Milk.

A little over 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of cowkeepers are producing milk under licences granted by the Kent County Council under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1943. During the year various premises have been re-conditioned and a number of producers have been granted tuberculin tested or accredited licences.

No. of producers	124.
No. of producer retailers	56.
No. of retailers	3.

Number of farms licenced to produce :-

(i) "Accredited" Milk	19.
(ii) "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	24.

There is a steady increase in the number of farms licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested milk.

	<u>No. of samples taken.</u>	<u>No. of unsatisfactory samples.</u>
"Accredited"	8	2
"Tuberculin Tested"	22	5
Non-designate	Nil	Nil

(b) Ice Cream: Nil.

(c) Meat.

No general slaughtering by the Ministry of Food occurs in the district, but there is a certain amount of private slaughtering as authorised by Ministry of Food licensing. When this is done by licensed slaughterers, the Sanitary Inspector is notified and the carcasses are inspected.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	<u>Cattle exclud- ing Cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
No. killed (if known)	-	-	-	-	200-300
No. inspected	-	-	-	-	(ap- 95% prox.)
All diseases except Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	3
Whole carcass condemned	-	≠ One	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-

≠ Carcase of cowbeef heated and in putrefactive condition when delivered to retail shop.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Carcases Inspected and Condemned (contd).

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>excluding</u> <u>Cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>&</u> <u>Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	.001
Tuberculosis only.	-	-	-	-	14
Whole carcasses Condemned.	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	13
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	(approx.) 5%

(a) Other Foods.Food surrendered as Unfit.

Bacon 2 cwts 14 lbs.
 Corned Beef 1 cwt 1 qr 6 lbs.

Section F.HOUSING.General.

During 1948 many owners carried out essential repairs to their houses following relaxation of licensing restrictions.

Inspections made during the year 271.
 Remedy of defects 116.

Council Houses.

Number 155.

Percentage of total of all houses 5.20%

During 1948 the Council have completed a large number of Council Houses, and still have a considerable number under construction. There are still 298 applicants on the Council's waiting list for permanent houses. 208 families have been temporarily housed at Rothfield Common following extensive repair and adaptation of Huts.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.Housing (contd.)Rural Housing Survey.

This survey was completed and categorised during 1948.

Hot Pickers Camps.

Routine inspections were carried out prior to the occupation of the two camps in this area, and during the occupation of the camps. The accommodation is good, there is a main water supply, refuse collection is carried out daily by the owners, and the general camp supervision is reasonable.

Total number of inspections 12.

